

JSC Town Hall Meeting addresses F2M questions

Nearly 500 Johnson Space Center employees gathered at the Gilruth Center last month to participate in the Center’s first Town Hall Meeting for the Freedom to Manage (F2M) program.

Introduced by Courtney Stadd, Chief of Staff to the Administrator, the panel of presenters included: Lt. Gen. Jefferson D. Howell, Jr., JSC Center Director; Greg Reck, NASA Deputy Chief Technologist; Greg Hayes, JSC Human Resources Director; Ann Guenther, NASA Director of the Analysis Division; Rich Beck, NASA Director of the Resource Analysis Division and Olga Dominguez, NASA Director of the Environmental Management Division.

The meeting opened with a brief video presentation featuring NASA Administrator Sean O’Keefe. He explained that the purpose of the F2M Program is to challenge and contest the way government agencies do business. O’Keefe said it is that challenge that will determine if the process in place is the best possible option or whether it needs to be improved upon – or even cancelled – in order to achieve the desired outcomes.

The F2M Program was created for fiscal year 2002 in response to President Bush’s Management Agenda, which is designed to reform government by identifying areas throughout all federal government agencies that are most vulnerable to fraud, waste and abuse.

Ten years ago, the General Accounting Office found eight such areas. Today it lists 22 significant government programs that too often deliver inadequate services at excessive cost. The President’s vision for government reform is guided by three principles.

Government should be:

- ❖ Citizen-centered, not bureaucracy-centered
- ❖ Results-oriented
- ❖ Market-based, actively promoting rather than stifling innovation through competition

President Bush has called for a government that is active, but limited, that focuses on priorities and does them well. That same spirit should be brought to the work of reform. Rather than pursue an array of management initiatives, government officials have elected to identify the most glaring problems – and solve them. The President’s Management Agenda is a starting point for management reform. F2M will bring about clear expectations of improved performance and accountability.

NASA and JSC have already made great strides in their implementation of the F2M program. The panel of speakers noted that 300 suggestions have been submitted thus far, and 150 already have been reviewed or implemented by the F2M task force.

F2M successes to date that were reported included:

- ❖ Removing layers for time and attendance reports
- ❖ Delegating certain authorities back to the Center Directors
- ❖ Streamlining the recruitment reporting process
- ❖ Improving procurement and financial management

Howell closed the meeting by emphasizing to the audience that “this (F2M) is our opportunity to turn things around, and we need to take advantage of this opportunity.”

All NASA civil servant and contractor employees are encouraged to submit their thoughts and ideas on how to improve or streamline processes that will help make their jobs more efficient and more effective. Submissions can be made through the F2M Web site at <http://f2m.nasa.gov>.

New Roundup Editor named

Kendra Ceule was recently named the *Roundup*’s new Editor. Ceule will oversee the publication’s daily editorial operations. She has previously performed several duties in the Public Affairs Office, including working as a *Roundup* reporter. Ceule served as a NASA Cooperative Education student from January to May of this year, and is now an InDyne employee under the IMPASS contract.

Melissa Davis, the *Roundup*’s Managing Editor since March 2001, is now the IMPASS Communications Team Lead in the Public Affairs Office. In addition to coordinating JSC’s annual report and performing various media-relations activities, Davis will serve as the *Roundup*’s Senior Editor. Davis is a Media Services employee under the IMPASS contract.



THANKSGIVING

- ❖ Thanks for a sunny day after two weeks of rain.
- ❖ Thanks for the big Texas sky; there’s no other sky like it.
- ❖ Thanks for the mockingbird’s song.
- ❖ Thanks for a loving family and good friends.
- ❖ Thanks for hard work that tests your strength and makes you sweat.
- ❖ Thanks for a fast car with good brakes.
- ❖ Thanks for hot showers and sudsy soap.
- ❖ Thanks for wonderful children and their wonderful children.
- ❖ Thanks for a difficult job that brings incredible fulfillment.
- ❖ Thanks for the integrity, professional excellence and commitment of my teammates.
- ❖ Thanks for the indescribable joy of walking down the street as the free citizen of a democracy.
- ❖ Thanks for those who have gone before and what they accomplished.
- ❖ Thanks for the honor of being part of a team that is pursuing a noble quest.
- ❖ Thanks for the knowledge that this list of thanks could go on and on.

My cup runneth over...

FROM THE DESK OF LT. GEN. JEFFERSON D. HOWELL, JR.

About the Roundup

The *Roundup* is a monthly magazine-style employee newspaper containing feature stories about JSC people and projects, as well as key Center and Agency messages. Editorial space is limited in the *Roundup*.

- ❖ Story ideas must be submitted at least two months in advance to allow for placement on the editorial calendar, as well as research, writing, editing and printing
- ❖ The *Roundup* editorial staff considers solid story ideas highlighting news-making JSC offices and people
- ❖ When space permits, the publication also recognizes national award recipients and recaps recent Center-wide events
- ❖ While appreciated, not all submitted story ideas can be used
- ❖ The *Roundup* accepts no advertising, meeting notices, event announcements or Swap Shop listings

To submit a story idea to the *Roundup*, or for distribution questions, please write to roundup@ems.jsc.nasa.gov or call (281) 244-NEWS (6397).

About CyberSpace Roundup

Because of the *Roundup*’s limited space and lengthy lead-time, most news is distributed through the *CyberSpace Roundup*. This is an online employee communications tool located at <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/roundup/> that works in tandem with the print *Roundup*.

Because it is updated each workday, the *CyberSpace Roundup* provides timely information about upcoming events and local award recipients, as well as meeting times and short JSC-related features.

- ❖ *CyberSpace Roundup* submissions should be sent to the editor by 8 a.m. at least two days prior to the desired publication date
- ❖ Articles must be JSC or NASA-related – no community announcements will be accepted
- ❖ Articles must be complete when submitted to the editor
- ❖ There is a 350-word limit
- ❖ One photo may be submitted with each article
- ❖ The editor has the right to edit copy or decline inappropriate submissions

Please submit your *CyberSpace Roundup* announcements to roundup@ems.jsc.nasa.gov. Please specify in the subject line the item is for the *CyberSpace Roundup* so it can be correctly routed.